



INTRODUCTION

We have much to celebrate as this busy term draws to a close. One of the key highlights was the fantastic performance of 'Oliver!' at the Epsom Playhouse in January. This was a team success which saw Prep and Senior pupils coming together with the support of committed staff and really did sum up all that we are about at Ewell Castle. The feedback from parents, staff and the public was very positive and plans are already underway for another musical next year.

In addition to the successful Enterprise Week at the Senior School before half term when Sixth Form students set up 'pop up' businesses to raise money, we have had our first STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Week which has involved a range of activities including the construction and racing of a go-kart.

As always there have been many other events, fixtures, activities and trips that are all highlighted within this newsletter.

We say a sad farewell to Mrs Phillips at the end of this term. She has been at Ewell Castle for just under four years and has certainly made a very positive impact on the School. She will be greatly missed by us all but we do wish her well for the future. Mr Robson will be Acting Head of the Prep School and Mrs Rowe Acting Deputy Head for Glyn House for the Summer Term while Mrs Hamilton and Mrs Lyne will be joining the teaching staff at Glyn

House for the Summer Term.

At the Senior School we will be saying goodbye to Miss Holden at the end of the Summer Term to pursue other interests and at the Prep Schools, Miss Nesling who is embarking on further study. I am sure that you would like to join me in thanking them for their hard work and commitment to the School. We are currently in process of recruiting their replacements.

Please can I draw your attention to a few highlights for the term ahead that you may wish to put in your diary:

- **Wednesday 27th April**
Principal's Breakfast
- **Week beginning Monday 9th May**
Year 6 SATs week
- **Week beginning 23rd May**
Senior School internal exam week
- **Wednesday 15th June**
Senior School Sports Day
- **Friday 24th June**
Prep School Sports Day – KS1 & 2
- **Wednesday 29th June**
Pre-Prep School Sports Day – Nursery & Reception
- **Friday 1st July**
Senior Prize Giving
- **Saturday 2nd July**
PSFA Summer Ball
- **Monday 4th July**
Summer Evening

- **Wednesday 6th July**
Prep School Prize Giving

- **Wednesday 6th July**
Sports Awards Evening

I would like to take this opportunity to remind all senior pupils to use the Easter holiday wisely with plenty of revision and practice exam papers to ensure that they are fully prepared for the public exams next term. Study leave for Year 11 will commence on Monday 16th May and for Year 12 and 13 on Monday 23rd May. Year 12 will return to begin their A2 course after half term on Monday 6th June.

As we look forward to the better weather and longer days of the Summer Term may I wish you all a very enjoyable and restful Easter holiday.

Kind regards

Mr P Harris, Principal



SKI 2016

This year's ski trip skied the Austrian slopes of Saalbach Hinterglemm for the second consecutive year, a week of both plenty of sun and snow. As well as their 5 hours of skiing each day, students swam, bowled, ice-skated and quizzed in the evenings too. Special mentions must go to the trip's 'Skier of the Week', Giles Barton who not only excelled on the slopes but was positive and helpful and all times too: Alan Khaw was a very popular close runner up for this award. On the trip's penultimate day, students competed in a slalom competition within their ski groups. Congratulations to the following who achieved podium places and medals: Ethan Wong, Hugo Lessing, Phillipe



Pioli, Joel Cooper, Max Everest, Giles Barton and Ollie Bridle – Ollie not only achieving a gold medal, but a cup for fastest time of the day.

A hectic and enjoyable week – come and join us again next year! Deposits are now being taken for Ski 2017 on ParentPay.

Ms K Wallace



SPANISH CONFERENCE

On Thursday 28th January, Year 10 Spanish pupils attended a Spanish conference in London. Whilst there, we learnt ways to improve our Speaking, Reading, Writing and Listening exams/controlled assessment. We were taught methods that will take our marks and grades to levels higher than we could otherwise achieve. We took home some very important rules and lessons, as well as a booklet full of notes we had made during the conference. I really enjoyed the day and definitely believe that attending this conference will help me to do better in my GCSE.

Owen, Year 10

'THE TEMPEST' AT THE GLOBE

Year 12 English students have attended days of lectures on Shakespeare's *The Tempest* and Williams' *A Street Car Named Desire* so far this academic year, and their extra-curricular support for their studies culminated in an end of Spring term trip to The Globe to watch *The Tempest*. Staged in the Sam Wannamaker Playhouse meant that this performance was entirely lit by candle-light and the music too was live. Although some of the Ewell Castle audience questioned the casting of Miranda and were not really enamoured by the singing and dancing celebrations, Stephano and Trinculo were comic geniuses and Prospero the powerful centre of the play. Several of us were also sat just metres from the stage, which enhanced a thoroughly enjoyable and dynamic performance.

Ms K Wallace



CERN PHYSICS TRIP



SIXTH FORM ENTERPRISE WEEK

With a set of humorous adverts played in a Whole School assembly, the Sixth Form Enterprise Week began on Monday 8th February. This annual activity is part of the Sixth Form Enrichment Programme. The eight forms had to buy, at auction, the chance to sell one pre-arranged product – from heavenly hot chocolate, to delicious doughnuts – at specific sites around school. The groups put in money, bought products and prepared. At Friday break-time,

businesses opened their stalls. Over £500 worth of trading took place in forty fun-filled minutes. The winning form was 6NN – not only on the money made, but also for their strategy, teamwork, accounts and presentation to judges. The final amount (over £100) will be donated to the school's Charitable Works Committee.

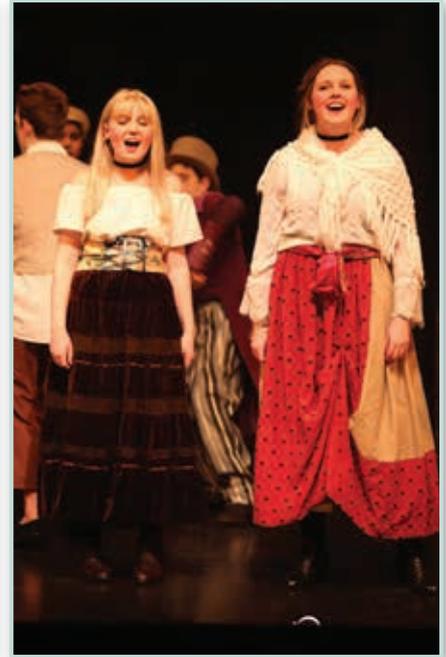
Mr J D'Souza



IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM DUXFORD

The Year 10 historians visited Duxford. We had a great tour around the base looking at historical aircraft that defined WW2 and the Cold War. We also attended a presentation on the Cold War and Vietnam that will be invaluable in the exam and for their controlled assessment.

Mr J C Blencowe



OLIVER!

The sell-out production of Oliver! was a triple first for Ewell Castle School. The School's first musical production, first production staged at The Epsom Playhouse and first production featuring pupils from our Preparatory School and Senior School. It was certainly worth waiting for, had us all "Omm-Pah-Pahing" in the aisles and brought a warm rosy Dickensian glow to our cheeks. Many thanks to Mr Essenhigh, Ms Hoddell, Miss Holden and Miss Jones as well as all the other members of staff who helped create such a stand-out production.



SENIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL

On Thursday 17th March, 13 students from Year 7 to Year 13 met for the Student Council.

Discussed were a range of matters that affect the students' well being and educational progression. From extracurricular clubs to group study

areas, the students of the school were armed with questions, queries, thoughts and concerns about school.

Thank you to all of those who gave up their time for the betterment of your community.

Mr S Getty



STOMP THEATRE TRIP

Years 7 and 8 enjoyed a trip to the West End to see STOMP at the Ambassadors Theatre on Thursday 10th March. STOMP is an energising mix of drama and percussion music and it certainly had the pupils tapping their feet! During the matinee performance, the pupils behaved exceptionally and a teacher from another school even commented on their good manners. Well done to all that attended!

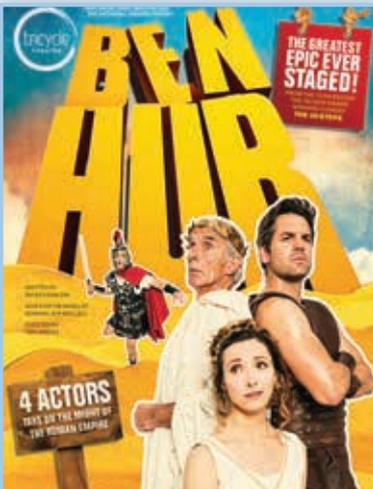
Miss L Jones

YEAR 9 TRIP TO BEN HUR

On Wednesday 6th January Year 9 visited the Tricycle Theatre, Kilburn to watch four actors perform the epic tale of Ben Hur. Using imaginative staging and characterisation they were taken on a rich theatrical journey.

The students very much enjoyed the dramatic story-telling techniques on display with its slapstick content. This very enjoyable parody from the same team that brought us 'The 39 Steps' was the perfect way to inspire the pupils in the art of devising.

Mr L Bader-Clynes



YEAR 12 TRIP TO THE BARBICAN THEATRE – 'THE ENCOUNTER' BY COMPLICITE



Pushing the boundaries of theatre Simon McBurney, the director of the world famous physical theatre company, Complicite, treated the audience to a technologically supreme theatrical experience.

McBurney took us on a journey through time and places. We are in the here and now of the performance as he talks to us about stories, identity and time. We are in the 1970s Amazonian rainforest, immersed in the encounter between North American photographer-explorer Loren McIntyre and a group of local Indian people, who have little contact with incomers (based on an account of the events by Romanian writer Petru Popescu).

The Year 12 pupils were mesmerised by the sheer ingenuity and invention of this supreme actor. They were part of an experience that marries simple story-telling and technology with questions of our existence and identity. Deeper questions were being posed. When one goes beyond the humble intellect and surrenders to a far deeper force of nature one observes that thought constructs and consciousness are fleeting and illusory!

In the realm of theatrical experience this was probably the most challenging production the pupils have ever seen.

Mr L Bader-Clynes

CHARITABLE WORKS

This has been a very busy term for the Charitable Works Committee continuing to raise funds for The Children's Trust Tadworth. We have continued to run the bi-weekly cake sales of which we have seen an amazing team effort involved from each form to raise as much money possible. Cake sales this term have come from 10EW raising £59.35, 10RN raising £43.54, 10VH raising £81.77, 9AO raising £56.57 and finally 9JR raising an impressive £95.11. As well as this we collected Easter eggs which have been donated directly to the children at The Children's Trust, this is something that was done last Easter and was greatly appreciated by everyone at The Children's Trust

and we are sure the reaction will be the same again this year!

Lauren Chan in the Sixth Form has started a brand new initiative this year at Ewell Castle by partnering us with the local Epsom and Ewell Foodbank. The aim of this is to support the local community by giving donations at least once every term; this started on Friday 18th March when we had a mufti day where we gave food donations instead of a monetary donation. This is a great way for us to appreciate the local community and give something back. It has also been great to see so many new faces from all different years at the Charitable Works Committee meetings this term, of which some fantastic ideas have

been raised for next term - watch this space for further information!!

We would like to thank you for all your generous support and donations this term and would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very nice Easter.

Joshua Miller - Senior member of The Charitable Works Committee



STEM WEEK 14TH – 18TH MARCH



At Ewell Castle Senior School we celebrated British Science Week by holding our very own inaugural STEM Week. STEM Week celebrates Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths and we held a number of events and activities at the School involving these subjects. Who knows, they may even inspire some of our pupils to consider a future in these growth areas which are receiving a lot of interest from both government and business.



SENIOR GIRLS NETBALL

SPRING TERM 2016

What a season it has been. Training sessions have been vibrant and energetic with most of the girls' squad attending each week, developing their basics and taking part in a range of training drills.

Matches against Claremont's A & B team and Reed's 3rd's and 4th's were played in very testing conditions with the girls braving sleet, rain and zero degree temperatures. We lost these games but not without an excellent battle and the girls never once complained or gave up.

We played Kings College School in Wimbledon in January beating them 22-20, a nerve-wracking 4th quarter saw us go behind after being 5 goals ahead for most of the game, but excellent passing and shooting from Joanna Wilshire, Georgia Heggs and Rheanna Cottam saw us bring it back at the end. The final game of the season was against Reed's 4ths, the team was a mix of our 1st and 2nd team due to an English trip, the girls did brilliantly winning 14-11. Bring on next season and watch this space for a brand new kit!

Mrs J Jones



A word from the Captain – Rheanna Cottam: Following the start of the netball and hockey season, being able to bond with a team as quickly as we all have is something which remains quite unique. To be able to trust and support one another in the space of under half a year, is what I consider to be one of the main reasons to why we have such a strong teamwork frame within the team. Consistent dedication to both training

and matches – with particular thanks to Lauren, Iman and Lily who have repeatedly played for us and all played consistently well – has allowed us to increase the quality of our game play. To be able to captain both teams has been a pleasure and a huge thanks to Mrs Jones, Miss Wilkinson and Miss Walford for their time and dedication to us all as a team.

Rheanna Cottam, Year 12

U16 RUGBY

It was a short but successful season for the U16 rugby team. Winning all three of their matches by an aggregate score of 121-14, they were the only year group in the school to go undefeated.

Yet perhaps the most important thing to come out of the rugby season was the experience gained by the large number of Year 11 students who went on to represent Ewell Castle in the 1st XV. The experience of regular playing time against strong opposition, often two years older than themselves, took many of the players out of their comfort zone and forced them to develop in order to compete.

Many of the U16s also travelled to the South of France on rugby tour in October. Once there, they took part in training sessions lead by coaching staff from Biarritz Olympique, one of the biggest and best rugby clubs in Europe, and played in two highly competitive fixtures against French opposition.

Overall the work put in and the experience gained by the U16 rugby team this season will stand both the individuals involved and the whole of Ewell Castle rugby in great stead in the years to come.

Mr P Roberts

1ST XV RUGBY REPORT 2015

This has been one of the toughest seasons for the 1st XV in recent years. Last year saw the predominantly Year 13 team split up as they embarked on journeys to university rugby. This season has been a huge step up for a young and enthusiastic team. There were some narrow defeats to the likes of KCS Wimbledon and Gordon's. The squad have pushed some very strong outfits close but fallen away at the end. A combination of students leaving and injuries has weakened the 1st XV this year. Having said that, the squad that have worn the shirt have done so with pride and given their all. The season contained some memorable

wins such as the 27-7 point win against RGS. Unfortunately mid season saw a change of captaincy due to a long term injury to Jamie Moore, up stepped a new recruit to ECS Toby Harrison who has led by example all season with a superb 'never give up' attitude. In terms of the future, the prospect is hugely encouraging. Year 11 students such as George Whalley, Trocon Barchue, Chauncey Taylor, Henry Macquire and Jack Stace to name just a few have stepped up this season and made some invaluable contributions.

Mr G Coogan

2ND XI SOCCER

Four matches - two draws, one win and one defeat suggested a series of evenly balanced and enjoyable encounters. The most closely contested games were the 2-1 win at Claremont Fancourt and the 0-0 draw at Christ's Hospital in which Eshen Patel, George Williams, Alex Streeter and Sahil Patel worked

tirelessly in defence. The squad's goalkeepers, Toby Harrison and Joshua Rose, performed acrobatically in the fixtures played whilst Will Harding and Matt Smith played impressively in midfield.

Mr K Peto

KEVIN JOY - PHYSICS TEACHER

Joined in September 2014 as a Teacher of Physics. Previously worked at Canberra Grammar School. Studied Science Education with majors in Physics and Biology at Sydney Teachers College in Sydney University. Deeply interested in current trends in Particle Physics and Astronomy.

Has always loved the outdoors and has experience leading trips with students to wild places including a 5750m peak in the Cordillera Blanco Peru. Involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme here and co-ordinated the scheme at previous school for 15 years. Kevin really believes in the values and

experience gained from doing the D of E. He is a very keen cyclist and loves the Surrey Hills. Kevin is also enjoying the proximity to mainland Europe where, last year, he realised a cycling dream of completing L'etape du Tour (a hilly stage of the Tour de France) in the French Alps.

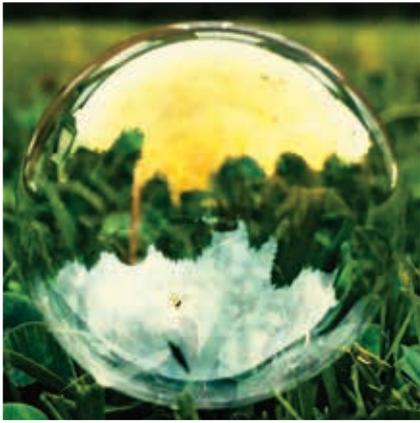


KIM RICHARDS - FINANCE ASSISTANT

You may see her running or cycling around Epsom and Ewell as she is keen on keeping fit and often takes on different challenges, her last one being The Nuts Challenge, with a number of teaching staff.



ARTISTS OF THE TERM



Georgia Norman - Y13
Bubble on ground



Alessandro Chinasamy - Yr7
Collage



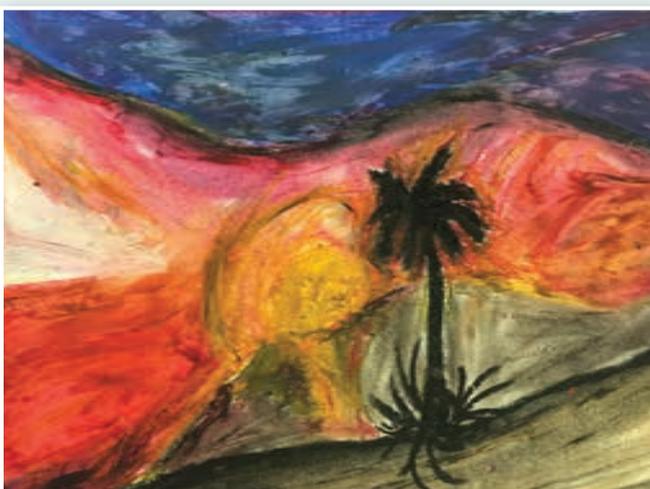
Max Bowen-West - Yr 10
Collage



Kiran Acharya - Yr11
Drawing



Will Smith - Yr10
Painting



Jack Dempsey Yr7
Painting



Jack Fitch - Yr12
Pen Drawing

HOUSE PANCAKE RACE - SHROVE TUESDAY



LAMDA EXAMINATIONS

Pupils from Years 7, 8 and 9 successfully completed their LAMDA examination on Thursday 4th February. All pupils participating were well rehearsed and confident in their delivery and worked hard to achieve this level of performance. The examiner has already complimented all the pupils involved on their enthusiasm and charisma when performing, well done to all involved! Results to follow next month.

Miss L Jones

ART TRIPS TO LONDON



RUGBY 7'S EWELL CASTLE SCHOOL TOURNAMENT

After a night of torrential rain which saw the U18 competition cancelled, we finally got the U15's competition underway with 8 hardy teams. The competition was packed with excitement including a superb 50m try from a Glyn prop and blistering pace from the likes of Langley Park's speedsters. Ravens Wood School proved too strong for much of the opposition in group 1, finishing top. Ewell Castle made a solid start to the day by keeping the rampant Ravens Wood to the lowest score line of the day 15-5. Group 2 was topped by St

James who just piped Glyn to the top spot. All was set for a thrilling final, ultimately Ravens Wood were too skilful for a determined St James and come away the deserved victors.

Player of the Tournament went to Samuel S, Y9 student playing for LVS, scoring at will during the day and causing havoc to oppositions defences. MrEssenhigh was extremely pleased with the determined attitude shown by his team and commended them of their resilience.

Mr G Coogan

PSFA SUMMER BALL

The PSFA Summer Ball will take place on Saturday 2nd July. To book your tickets and make your menu selection, please go to ParentPay. Tables are already being reserved, so get your skates on and book your tickets as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

PSFA

YR 7 & 8 SHAKESPEARE LIVE

Year 7 and 8 English classes were treated to a hilariously interactive introduction to Shakespeare's life and plays by touring theatre company Traffic of the Stage. The performance led students through comedies, tragedies, understanding Shakespeare's language, and plays such as: Romeo and Juliet, Macbeth, Hamlet, The Tempest, Richard III, The Taming of the Shrew, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Much Ado About Nothing and Othello.

Students were quizzed on their own Shakespearean knowledge (Miss Butterworth was convinced that her classes came out top for this) and



were constantly involved with every aspect of the performance as they

were invited to take on the roles of Macbeth's witches, supporters of different (heckling) sides in battles, A Midsummer Night Dream's ass (Freddie Hobson) and fairies (Max Dunlop, Roderic Thambithurai); The Tempest's Caliban (Tommy Dodson) and Ariel (Joseph Bellamy); participants in sword fighting duals (Patrick Alford, Freddie Childs, Mustafa Jaffar, Christian Jones, Sam Gimson), Rosencrantz and Guildenstern (Paddy Hodgson and Harsh Raguraj) and students even competed for an Oscar for Mercutio's best death scene (congratulations to winner Adheesha Heiyantuduwa).

Ms K Wallace



SWIMMING GALA

